

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SCCT-01 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

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AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2205

LIMDIS

NAIROBI ALSO FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY DAVIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEPHEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS

REF: (A) STATE 146729 (B) STATE 146724

1. WILL REPLY FURTHER WHEN COUNTRY TEAM ASSEMBLED THIS MORNING,
BUT PRELIMINARY RESPONSE MAIN QUESTIONS ADDRESSED TO RZPS FOLLOWS:

2. RE PARA 4 REF A, STRONGLY URGE THAT NEITHER VANCE NOR ANYONE
ELSE INFORM GOZ THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRP GOING ON INSIDE
TANZANIA, FOR FEAR THAT MOBUTU MIGHT ASK NYERERE TO DETAIN PRP
REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH WOULD PLACE LIVES OF STUDENTS IN GREAT
JEOPARDY.

3. WHO? (REF. A, PARA 2): ENLISTING TANGOV COOPERATION, IN VIEW
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ITS STATED POSITION THAT IT HAS NO RESPONSIBILITY IN KIDNAPPING,

DIFFICULT EVEN FOR PASSIVE, LOCAL MATTERS. TO OBTAIN TIMELY POSITIVE DEMARCHE BY TANGOV TO GOZ WOULD BE, WE FEAR, VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE. TANGOV HAS MADE IT QUITE CLEAR ALL ALONG THAT THIS IS EXTREMELY DISTASTEFUL MATTER TO WHICH IT WILL AT BEST NOT RAISE OBSTACLES. TO SUGGEST THAT TANGOV TAKE INITIATIVES WITH A NEIGHBOR WITH WHICH IT HAS MANY PROBLEMS COULD PUSH IT INTO TOTAL HOSTILITY TO OUR RESCUE MISSION. WE CONCUR THAT DUTCH GOVERNMENT IS PROBABLY BEST PLACED MAKE DEMARCH WITH GOZ AT THIS TIME.

4. HOW MUCH? WE CONCUR WITH DEPARTMENT'S FEAR THAT RANSOM STORY WILL LEAK OUT. SINCE MERE ADMISSION THAT AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH PRP AND GOZ COOPERATION NEEDED TO EFFECT EXCHANGE IMPLIES THAT SOMETHING CONCEDED, WE SEE NO ABSOLUTE OBJECTION TO INFORMING MOBUTU THAT PARENTS HAVE AGREED TO RANSOM. HOPEFULLY, HE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT DEMANDS FOR WEAPONS, WHICH WE CAN ASSURE HIM HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEDED TO.

5. WHEN? ACCORDING OUR MOST HOPEFUL SCHEDULE, MECHANICS OF EXCHANGE WOULD BEGIN LATE AFTERNOON OF MONDAY, JUNE 23, AT EARLIEST. IN ANTICIPATION INITIAL VANCE/MOBUTU TALKS TAKE PLACE SUNDAY, WILL KEEP ALL PARTIES UP TO DATE ON WHEN GOZ COOPERATION MAY BE NEEDED. NEVERTHELESS, ASIDE FROM EXCHANGE OPERATION, IT URGENT PREVENT GOZ ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT PRECIPITATE REACTIONS AGAINST STUDENTS AT CAMP WHERE THEY HELD; MERE PATROLS ON LAKE UNLIKELY HAVE THIS EFFECT, BUT DIRECT ACTION AGAINST PRP CAMPS COULD BE DISASTROUS. WE WOULD HOPE THAT DUTCH COULD GO AHEAD WITH APPEAL FOR GOZ RESTRAINT IN ACCORDANCE PARA 7 OF REF A AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. IN RESPONSE REF B, WE BELIEVE TANGOV ALL TOO AWARE ITS SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO DETERMINE FATE OF PRISONERS IN ITS CONTROL. DESPITE APPARENT PRP AGREEMENT THAT FAILURE OUR ATTEMPTS SECURE RELEASE OF PRISONERS WILL NOT PREVENT LIBERATION OF STUDENTS, WE BY NO MEANS CERTAIN THAT THEIR POSITION WILL NOT HARDEN. TO MAKE APPEAL TO NYERERE SO COUCHED WITH RESERVATIONS AND DISCLAIMERS AS TO SUGGEST WE DON'T MEAN IT WOULD BE WORSE THAN USELESS. FURTHERMORE, APPEAL WILL HOPEFULLY BE MADE THROUGH BRYCESON, WHO IS TANZANIAN OFFICIAL AND CITIZEN AND NOT SUBJECT TO CONFIDENTIAL

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STRAINTS RAISED REFTEL. WHILE ANY APPROACH WE MAKE DIRECTLY CAN INCLUDE POINTS RAISED REFTEL, WE FEAR THAT IT WOULD JEOPARDIZE SUCCESS OF OPERATION.

7. IN CONNECTION WITH PARA 5, REF. A., I WOULD REMIND DEPARTMENT THAT ELEVEN DAYS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE NYERERE INDICATED HIS "PERSONAL INTEREST" IN RESOLVING KIDNAPPING CASE (DAR 1980). USING EVERY DEVICE AT OUR DISPOSAL WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE LEARN WHAT

HIS INITIATIVES HAVE ACCOMPLISHED. IT IS THIS SORT OF LACK OF
FOLLOW-THROUGH EVEN WHEN NYERERE INVOLVED THAT CONDITIONS OUR
THINKING HERE.
CARTER

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